

HOW PAYING ATTENTION TO CATTLE RAISING

Interest Is Increasing in Virginia and Other States of the South.

NEED MORE PACKING HOUSES

Charles L. Hunter Describes Conditions in Georgia—J. M. Barr, Former President of Seaboard Air Line, Issues Pamphlet on Subject.

One of the gratifying signs of the times in Virginia and also in other parts of the South is a growing interest in the matter of cattle and stock raising. This interest has not reached the enthusiastic stage yet, but it is to be hoped that this is coming. Down in Georgia, and perhaps other Southern States that heretofore have looked upon their all in cotton, stock and cattle raising interests are gaining ground. Charles L. Hunter, of Atlanta, writing to the Manufacturers' Record on this subject brings out some points that may well be taken under serious consideration in Virginia, for what he says of conditions in Georgia applies to this State as well as to others.

"Cattle raising in the Far West and North is paying handsomely. Why should they be able to raise cattle more cheaply than the South? They cannot. The West and North have only a limited number of days in which cattle can be fed in the open. Their winters are hard on man and beast. How about the South? There are but few days that the open pasture down here will not furnish abundant nourishment for the growing cattle, and the raising of them during the few days that they are not out in the fields is but a small item. They thrive here better than in the colder climates, and feed for fattening and finishing their off for market are more easily raised here than in the colder climates."

"From one to three crops yearly on the same land can be raised here plentifully and profitably. There has been in the past one great drawback to cattle raising in this section—the tick. Thanks to our State authorities, this pest has been almost eliminated."

PREDICTS BIG FOREIGN TRADE

FOR RAISING OF CATTLE

Mr. Hunter says that the time has come for cattle raisers and packing houses in the future. He argues thus:

"What will conditions be when the struggle across the waters is ended? Where is the vast population to get cattle for restocking? The answer is, they are using up every animal that can be turned into food for the men in the trenches. Notice the vast amount of meat this country is now furnishing to the allied countries, with trade restricted as it is. No country, save England, can get our meat except when the entire world can come into our ports and buy meat. How great is going to be the demand for meat when the war is over, but even this great demand is forcing on us opportunities that, if taken advantage of, will mean unlooked-for profit and success. Raising cattle in the South is one of the greatest of the opportunities that are now being forced on us. It is one that is prepared to grasp the opportunity at the conclusion of this great struggle."

"Cattle-raising by itself will take from two to three years to begin paying dividends. Fortunately, however, in this section it goes hand in hand with hog-raising and diversified farming. This method of farming here will pay from the start, and pay well for every dollar invested. We do not have to depend on the market for food for our cattle. Limited acreage for pasture, coupled with fields where grain and hay and other feeds are raised more cheaply than in any other section of the country, will enable a maximum number of cattle to be kept on a minimum number of acres of land. We all have learned that this is an age of turning our raw material into the manufactured state before putting it on the market. Use hogs and cattle as manufacturing plants, turning food crops for market. Sell your corn in grain, peanuts and potatoes through your cows and hogs."

DOING GOOD BUSINESS

Mr. Hunter says that the packing houses of this State are doing a good business, and that Georgia needs many more establishments of the kind. And then he tells some things that ought to be taken into consideration by the farmers in the immediate future. He says that about two or three years ago a small packing house was established in Moultrie, Ga., and that it paid so well that in less than a year the necessity arose for doubling its capacity. The original plant is taxed to its utmost capacity, and the owner has the farmers in the immediate vicinity on a market right at home for their goods. They have become enthusiastic over the cattle and hog-raising business, finding that their cattle and hogs pay better than their cotton crops. Mr. Hunter adds that these farmers are building up their lands, that homes have taken on fresh coats of paint, and that the wisdom of the movement of the State is being demonstrated by beautiful farm homes and well-graded and excellently built roads, where every sign of prosperity is seen. Mechanical cultivation rapidly is taking place of the old methods. Cattle raising has been accomplished in the past, but it is practically all that can be done in the South, and will do the same for the North, and that any other Southern State when money realizes what it can get for its investment in this business.

CHASE CITY, VIRGINIA

J. M. Barr, former president of the Seaboard Air Line, and one of the most progressive of the South, who has recently issued a pamphlet on the subject under discussion.

Mr. Barr deals mainly with the situation in North Carolina, but being now a citizen of that State, his pamphlet contains several letters he wrote to the officials of the North Carolina Experiment Station, and in these he contrasts the agricultural prosperity of Iowa, with its per capita wealth of \$2,200, with the per capita of \$757 of North Carolina. Mr. Barr holds that this difference is due largely to the live stock industry of Iowa, and to the lack of an adequate development in North Carolina, and the reason for the latter he attributes largely to the lack of packing houses in that State. He pleads for co-operation of the experiment station management in the establishment of a packing plant at Raleigh, in order to furnish a market for hogs and cattle, and thus broaden the interest throughout the State in live-stock production.

Newport News and Japan.

The Manufacturers' Record says: The Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, which has on hand about \$10,000,000 worth of work, is employing about 7,000 hands, and we believe a larger aggregate of work, including merchant marine and government shipbuilding, than any other yard in the country, but there is no shipbuilding plant in Japan employing more than 10,000 men, and the large extensions are projected which will still further increase the number.

PROSPERITY VISIBLE IN WIDE-AWAKE CHASE CITY

Lumber Interest Great—Woodworking Plants Busy—Big Pay Rolls—Make Trade Good.

NOTED MECKLENBURG SPRINGS

Important Leaf Tobacco Market. Banks That Help Boom Enterprises—Waters That Advertise the Town and Virginia.

BY FRANK S. WOODSON.

CHASE CITY, VA., July 1.—The wide awake people of Chase City, in the County of Mecklenburg, know how to spell the word "prosperity," for since the building of good roads throughout the district and in the adjoining districts, and the reopening of the many sawmills and lumber plants and the converting into cash of nearly 5,000,000 pounds of bright tobacco, and the rehabilitation of the famous Mecklenburg Springs, and the increase of the sales of the famous waters 3,000 per cent, and the wonderful extension of the trade of the town, big furniture factory, of its great wagon factory and of its box factory, the business of Chase City has been on the jump. Yes, for the past twelve months all lines of business have flourished and the strong banks here have seen to it that there should be no lagging anywhere on account of short funds. They have not allowed any of the hustling concerns, and the town has some as hustling as ever, and ever coming down the pike, to lack for the money to strike while the iron is hot and to push things while pushing is good.

Who live just beyond the corporate limits and do business within the same. It rejoices in splendid educational facilities, churches of four denominations flourish, the social atmosphere is all that could be asked, there are lovely homes, good hotels, good streets, good water, good municipal government, good government, and with all, a general co-operative spirit among the people.

But it is of the business of Chase City that I wish to write now.

The other matters may be taken up later.

Since it seemed to be a cross-road village, and changed its name from Christianville to Chase City the town has been a tobacco market. For many years it has been a good deal of the leaf that found its way to the market was manufactured here, but in recent years bright tobacco has become the rage in this territory, and Chase City has become a bright market. Buyers for the big cities, and the big export houses, are on the market, and some local buyers, one of them being one of the largest leaf handling houses in the State, buying stock not only here, but also in the big cities, and the export houses of the leaf in the four warehouse here for the tobacco year just closed were 1,600,591 pounds, which brought the average price of \$10.04 per 100. All of the tobacco was shipped to the big cities, and the big export houses.

A BRIGHT TOBACCO MARKET

OF GREAT IMPORTANCE

Chase City is a town of about 2,500 inhabitants, including the good people grown in this part of Mecklenburg and in Lunenburg County, and for some years it has been a good deal of the leaf that found its way to the market was manufactured here, but in recent years bright tobacco has become the rage in this territory, and Chase City has become a bright market. Buyers for the big cities, and the big export houses, are on the market, and some local buyers, one of them being one of the largest leaf handling houses in the State, buying stock not only here, but also in the big cities, and the export houses of the leaf in the four warehouse here for the tobacco year just closed were 1,600,591 pounds, which brought the average price of \$10.04 per 100. All of the tobacco was shipped to the big cities, and the big export houses.

SOMETHING THAT IS GREAT

IN LUMBER TRADE

Chase City is the center of a magnificent lumber region in which the pine, oak, hickory, chestnut, poplar, gumwood, etc., abound to perfection. It is, therefore, not natural that the lumber business and enterprises pertaining thereto should flourish here. Within a circle of six or eight miles around Chase City, there are immense sawmills, and a dozen or more smaller ones, and a concern which is perhaps the largest cutter of railway cross-ties in the State. These establishments supply the local market, and the lumber and the house-building contractors of the town and ship vast quantities of dressed lumber to the larger cities.

The Chase City Manufacturing Company, engaged in the wagon-making business and selling wagons, carts and lumber trucks all over Southern Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia and manufacturing barrel-staves and headings are immense exporters of lumber as may be imagined when it is shown by the books that the works have a capacity of 75,000 vehicles per year and in good times, as the country is now, they are turning out many more. The names of 125 men are on the pay roll of this establishment.

The Jeffreys, Spaulding Company manufactures year-book boxes for the Standard Oil Company to use in shipping oils to the tropical lands and elsewhere, and this concern employing fifty or more hands are large consumers of lumber.

CHASE CITY, VIRGINIA

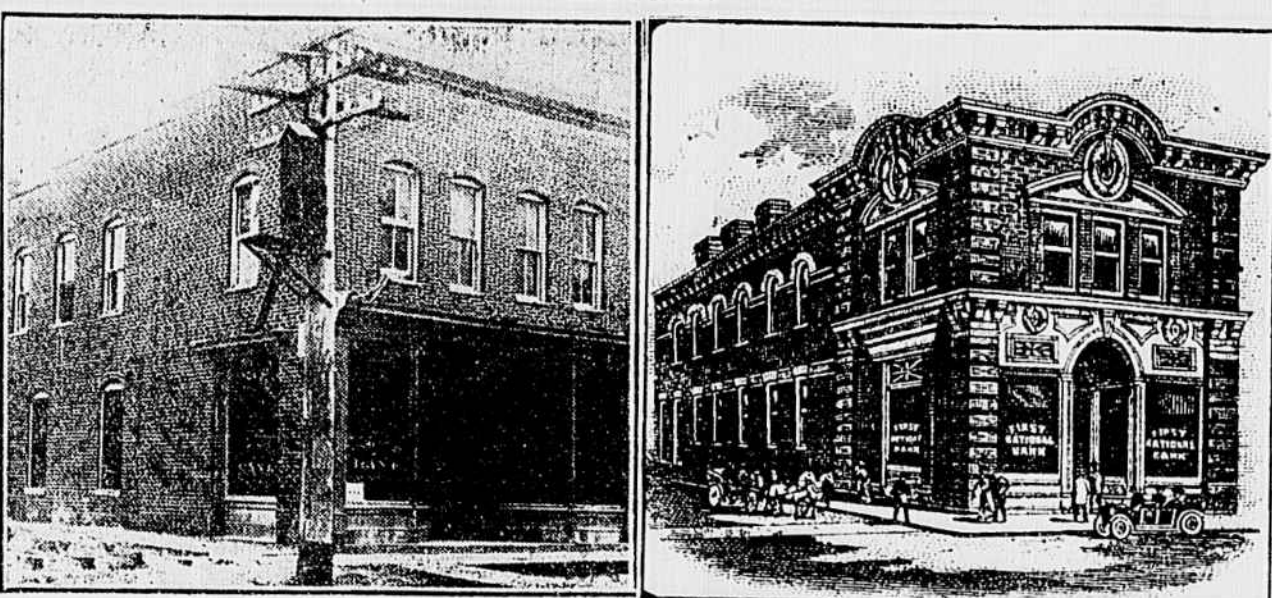
Another immense consumer of lumber is the K. Nicholson Furniture Company, who operate a very large factory, turning out ladies' writing desks, sectional bookcases, music and record cabinets, piano-player roll cabinets and various novelties along these lines. The Nicholson Company has an immense trade with furniture dealers in Virginia, North and South Carolina and some other States, and for the past two years have been confining their operations to this class of furniture. They are very large consumers of lumber, and just now the contractors and house-builders are consuming a great deal of it for Chase City is on a building boom. Numerous old stores and other business houses are being torn down to make room for better structures, and whenever a frame store or office building is removed, a brick structure takes its place, and thus Chase City is being beautified while the good work goes on.

The Southside Supply Company is a combination concern. It runs a flouring mill, an ice factory, a cotton gin, a daily capacity, a cotton-gin that takes care of all of the cotton grown in this

Chase City, Va., of the Present Day



Mecklenburg Guards refreshing themselves in front of Mecklenburg Mineral Spring just before starting to Mexican border.



FIRST STATE BANK BUILDING.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

VIEW AND NEAR VIEWS: HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

How Hint all the Way From Georgia. Another One Right Here at Home.

The cattle-raising business and the good of packing houses in Southern cities form the subject of an article in another column of this section of this morning's paper. Just as a hint, the following from W. C. Vereen, president of the Moultrie (Ga.) Packing Company, mentioned in that article, is given here. Says Mr. Vereen:

"Since the establishment of our plant in Moultrie, the farmers of Southern Georgia, Eastern Alabama and Northern Florida have commenced devoting considerable more attention to the raising of hogs than heretofore. As an illustration, up to this time last year, which was the first year our plant was in operation, we had killed about 16,000 hogs. This year we have killed about 60,000. The probability is that next year during the same period we will kill over 100,000."

Mr. Vereen also is president of one of the banks of our city, and for many years during the early part of May the banks always have numerous demands from the farmers of this section for money to pay cotton choppers. This year this demand has amounted to almost nothing. Instead of going to the banks and borrowing money to pay their cotton choppers, the farmers have sold a few hogs and secured the necessary cash to meet this expense. The cotton choppers in this section will be made this year on less borrowed money than any previous season."

There is certainly something in that for Virginians. In and out of town, to think about.

Along the same line, and coming near home, in fact right at home, a statement from King & Co., who have a big packing plant in this city, is interesting. It is known that King & Co. are enlarging their plant in this city, adding cold storage facilities, etc., so as to slaughter and pack hogs all the year around instead of just in the winter months. Their statement is as follows:

"Last winter we packed in four months about 55,000 hogs, and about that number for several years past, the number varying according to the supply."

We received a number of hogs from North and South Carolina last year and previous years, and have been actively co-operating with the Department of Agriculture in those States in connection with their efforts to develop the hog industry. Packers cannot satisfactorily use soft hogs that have been fed only on peanuts and other such feed that makes the flesh soft and oily. This trouble can be remedied by proper feeding, and there is and will be a market in Richmond for all hogs of satisfactory quality that are likely to be raised in Virginia and the Carolinas for some time.

Plants like ours, operating under United States government inspection, cannot buy hogs that are dressed on the farm, and these hogs have to be marketed in nearby towns, where the seller has only the local merchants for purchasers. We can only buy live hogs and it is better to have them shipped in car lots.

"When the buildings are completed we will have a thoroughly modern and up-to-date packing plant, all under United States government inspection, capable of handling 1,000 hogs, 100 cattle and 200 small stock daily."

Some day Virginia is going to be a great hog and cattle-growing State.

A letter received a day or two ago

from a Richmond man from a Wall Street house reads about the trouble with Mexico, although most unfortunate for the poor men who must go down there, will stimulate business. The country is slowly but surely waking up to the idea of preparedness, and this trouble will wake them up all the more and that will ultimately tend to stimulate business, as large orders will have to be placed for all kinds of supplies by the United States government. Wall Street always looks out for the main chance. In this case the writer of the above letter has the thing right. Richmond and some other Virginia towns can profit by the war scare if they will even if there be no fighting, and it is the right thing to do.

The action of the State Board of Education, says the Harrisonburg Independent, in constituting the city of Harrisonburg as a separate school division apart from Rockingham County was one of the final steps in the evolution of the town into a full-fledged city.

We are all prepared to watch the city of Harrisonburg grow. Don't let us be disappointed.

PITTSYLVANIA FARMERS PROGRESSIVE AND ACTIVE

Are Not Devoting All Their Energies at Present to Tobacco Crops.

MUCH DEMONSTRATION WORK

Silos Being Erected in Every Part of the County—Increase in Cattle Raising—Many Acres of Alfalfa Sown.

CHATHAM, VA., July 1.—Pittsylvania County lies in the center of the bright tobacco belt, and for a long time, until within the last few years, in fact, the agricultural people were what may be called slaves to the one-crop idea. It is true that the farmers always have raised a little corn, a little wheat and a little oats, and some of them always have been in the habit of raising a few hogs for their own table use, but, as a general rule, as long as the bright tobacco brought big figures on the warehouse floors in the Danville, Lynchburg and other markets the large majority of them put nearly all of their energy into tobacco.

As long as the leaf sold well and the tiller of the soil saw the county flooded with money he thought himself safe to neglect other crops, going on the theory that it was cheaper and easier to use his tobacco money to supply his necessities along the line of stock food and nearly all of the home supplies which should have been produced on his own farm.

The change that has come over the spirit of the Pittsylvania farmers' dreams is, of course, due in some measure to the low prices for tobacco prevailing for the last few years, but that they are making great progress in the way of becoming "hog-and-home" farmers also is largely due to the co-operative extension and demonstration work inaugurated a few years ago by the national and State Departments of Agriculture. In the United States government wish to tell some things that are being done in Pittsylvania County, as I see the Industrial Section of The Times-Dispatch has been collecting facts and figures of this character from other counties.

W. M. PERRY IS FARM DEMONSTRATION AGENT

W. M. Perry, who resides in Danville, is the farm demonstration agent for the county, and he has a pretty good idea of which to work. When he commenced the good work in Pittsylvania he found too many farmers enriching the merchants by buying from them flour from Minnesota, meat from Illinois, hay from Indiana and even fruit from New York. Two or three patches of alfalfa were found; two silos; not a modern barn; practically no pure-bred corn and but few head of pure-bred stock. The situation soon was sized up, and steps taken to remedy the condition. Mr. Perry's doctrine, preached verbally and through the press, was that, although there was seemingly plenty of money, cash did not always spell prosperity; that true prosperity on the farm is measured to a great extent by the fertility of the soil, and this fertility comes through the producing of stock and the grasses. In order to encourage stock raising, a creamery was started, which to-day is doing a thriving business. Dairy herds are being built up in different parts of the county, cattle raising is on the increase, and the inevitable result is that silos are being erected, barns being

MUCH ATTENTION GIVEN

TO CARE OF ORCHARDS

Attention is given to the inspection of home orchards, and treatment advised for the scale and other insects and fungus diseases. The fruit tree agents are busy selling trees, but the idea of proper care of the trees when planted has not seriously engaged the attention of the people. Thousands of trees now are being inspected and farmers induced to prune and spray with splendid results.

The boys' club work is receiving its full share of recognition in this county. The boys of to-day are to be farmers of to-morrow, and the development of the boys into progressive farmers and useful citizens, the demonstrators believe in encouraging to the fullest extent. The number of boys who have their own code of planting this year is 412. The club is divided into local clubs. Some of these hold monthly meetings. The agent arranges programs for them, and meets with them as often as possible. These boys are intensely interested in the club work, and are setting good examples for their parents and neighbors. The universal testimony of the leading farmers in the county is that the club work is one of the leading factors in improving farming conditions.

The above are some of the leading features of the demonstration work in the county. Of course, there are many other things the demonstrators are doing to do. He is the bureau of information on every conceivable subject. The demonstration agent used to feel the people, but now they are seeking him.

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There is really nothing doing in the package trade. As a matter of fact, a majority of the dealers were in Asheville the past week in attendance upon the annual meeting of the National Tobacco Association.

All of the Virginia markets, save possibly Petersburg, are now closed for the season.

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